

Message Text

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CU/WE:RSTRAUSS
S/S-MR LUERS
EUR:MR VINE

----- 055810

R 141807Z FEB 75
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BERLIN
INFO USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 034447

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SCUL, GE, US

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE TOUR OF US BY BERLINER ENSEMBLE

REF: BERLIN 5214 (NOTAL)

1.) DEPARTMENT SHARES POSITIVE EMBASSY VIEW OF POSSIBLE
TOUR BY BERLINER ENSEMBLE. IF APPROACHED BY REISEBUERO
OR OTHER OFFICIALS, EMBASSY SHOULD TAKE FORTHCOMING
POSITION, POINTING OUT, HOWEVER, THAT SUCH A VENTURE WOULD
BE PURELY PRIVATE IN CHARACTER AND WOULD IN NO WAY INVOLVE
US GOVERNMENT. OUR ONLY ROLE WOULD BE ISSUANCE OF VISAS,
WHICH WE WOULD PROPOSE TO DO IN SAME MANNER AS WE
HAVE FOR OTHER LARGE GROUPS OF GDR APPLICANTS.

2.) AS POST IS AWARE, DEPARTMENT DOES NOT WISH TO
COMMENCE FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS WITH GDR ON CULTURAL MATTERS
IN THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE. SUCH TALKS WOULD BE
APPROPRIATE ONLY AFTER SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE
IN OTHER AREAS. DEPARTMENT HAS NO OBJECTION IN PRINCIPLE,
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HOWEVER, TO VISITS TO US UNDER PRIVATE AUSPICES BY GDR

GROUPS FOR CULTURAL ACTIVITIES. EMBASSY SHOULD USE ANY OPPORTUNITY WHICH ARISES TO POINT OUT TO APPROPRIATE GDR

CONTACTS THAT WE PROCEED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT THIS IS A TWO WAY STREET AND THAT SIMILAR VISITS BY US GROUPS WOULD NOT ONLY BE POSSIBLE BUT WOULD RECEIVE POSITIVE TREATMENT BY GDR.

3.) DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE BEING KEPT INFORMED BY EMBASSY OF SUCH PROSPECTIVE VISITS. INGERSOLL

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